

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 7, 9 and 11 have been amended. Claims 2, 8 and 10 have been cancelled without prejudice.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,415,323 (hereinafter "McCanne") in view of U.S. Patent 6,611,872 (hereinafter "McCanne-2"). The Applicants respectfully disagree, and submit the following arguments in support of their position.

As understood by the Applicants, McCanne relates to a redirection system for handling client requests. Furthermore, as understood by the Applicants, McCanne-2 relates to application-level multicasting in a router.

In contrast, claim 1, as amended, requires "mapping the URL to a corresponding unicast address for the information object; and using the unicast address as an anycast address." The sections of McCanne and McCanne-2 cited by the Examiner to teach these limitations are only related to unicasting and multicasting. McCanne at the paragraph beginning at Col 19 Line 63 discusses fan points to replicate multicast traffic, while the service nodes communicate using unicast connections.

Similarly, McCanne-2 at Col 25 Line 51 describes redirecting unicast initiated traffic to a multicast overlay group. At Col 19 Line 65, McCanne-2 discusses loop avoidance as related to multicasting and offers an application-based solution to loop avoidance using consistency checks. However, neither

McCanne nor McCanne 2 teaches "using the unicast address as an anycast address," as required by claim 1.

Therefore, claim 1 is allowable. Furthermore, claim 3-8 that depend on claim 1 and add further limitations are also allowable.

Claims 7 and 9, as amended, include limitations similar to those of allowable claim 1. Therefore claims 7 and 9 are also allowable. Similarly, claims 11-14, which depend on allowable claim 9 adding further limitations are also allowable.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Adam Furst at (408) 947-8200.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: November 4, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Furst', is written over a horizontal line.

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